

Adjournment: Met at 9:00 a.m. and adjourned at 12:34 a.m. on Wednesday, October 1.

Committee Meetings

OPM's REPORT ON IMPROPER HIRING PRACTICES AT NCUA

Committee on Banking and Financial Services: Subcommittee on General Oversight and Investigations held a hearing to review OPM's Report on Improper Hiring Practices at the National Credit Union Administration. Testimony was heard from Janice Lachance, Acting Director, OPM; and the following officials of the National Credit Union Administration: Norman D'Amours, Chairman; Shirlee Bowne, Vice-Chairman; and Yolanda Wheat, Board Member.

OVERVIEW—NIH PROGRAMS

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Health and Environment held a hearing on an Overview of National Institutes of Health Programs. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the NIH, Department of Health and Human Services: Harold E. Varmus, M.D., Director; Francis Collins, M.D., Director, National Human Genome Research Institute; Donald Lindberg, M.D., Director, National Library of Medicine; David Lipman, M.D., National Library of Medicine; Richard Hodes, M.D., Director, National Institutes of Aging; Zach Hall, M.D., Director, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke; and Anthony S. Fauci, M.D., Director, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE COMPETITION AND PRIVATIZATION ACT

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Telecommunications, Trade, and Consumer Protection held a hearing on H.R. 1872, Communications Satellite Competition and Privatization Act of 1997. Testimony was heard from Regina M. Keeney, International Bureau Chief, FCC; Jack A. Gleason, Associate Administrator, International Affairs, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, Department of Commerce; and public witnesses.

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOL CHOICE

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Youth and Families held a hearing on Public and Private School Choice. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

REVIEW—FEDERAL EMPLOYEES COMPENSATION ACT

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Workforce Protections held a hearing to Review the Federal Employees Compensation Act

(FECA). Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Labor: Shelby Hallmark, Acting Assistant Secretary, Office of Worker's Compensation Programs; and Charles Masten, Inspector General; and Mike Brostek, Associate Director, Federal Management and Workforce Issues, GAO.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight: Ordered reported amended the following bills: H.R. 404, to amend the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 to authorize the transfer to State and local governments of certain surplus property for use for law enforcement or public safety purposes; and H.R. 1962, Presidential and Executive Office Financial Accountability Act of 1997.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on International Relations: Ordered reported amended H.R. 2386, United States-Taiwan Anti-Ballistic Missile Defense Cooperation Act.

The Committee also reconsidered its earlier action and ordered reported amended H.R. 967, to prohibit the use of United States funds to provide for the participation of certain Chinese officials in international conferences, programs, and activities and to provide that certain Chinese officials shall be ineligible to receive visas and be excluded from admission to the United States

ADMINISTRATION'S POLICY TOWARD ASIA

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific held a hearing on the Administration's Policy Toward Asia. Testimony was heard from Stanley Roth, Assistant Secretary, East Asian and Pacific Affairs, Department of State.

OVERSIGHT—SEEKING RESULTS FROM JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

Committee on the Judiciary: Held an oversight hearing on Seeking Results from the Department of Justice. Testimony was heard from Norman J. Rabkin, Director, Administration of Justice Issues, General Government Division, GAO; and Stephen R. Colgate, Assistant Attorney General, Administration, Justice Management Division, Department of Justice.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Courts and Intellectual Property approved for full Committee action the following: H.R. 1534, amended, Private Property Rights Implementation Act of 1997; H.R. 1967, to amend title 17, United States Code, to provide that the distribution before January 1, 1978, of a phonorecord shall not for any purpose

constitute a publication of the musical work embodied therein; H.R. 2265, amended, No Electronic Theft (NET) Act; and the Copyright Term Extension Act.

OVERSIGHT

Committee on Resources: Held an oversight hearing on issues surrounding use of fire as a management tool and its risks and benefits as they relate to the health of the National Forests and the EPA's National Ambient Air Quality Standards. Testimony was heard from Bruce Babbitt, Secretary of the Interior; Dan Glickman, Secretary of Agriculture; Carol M. Browner, Administrator, EPA; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—BLM'S GRAZING REDUCTIONS

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands held an oversight hearing on Grazing Reductions and other issues on BLM lands. Testimony was heard from Maitland Sharpe, Assistant Director, Renewable Resources and Planning, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

DOMAIN NAME SYSTEM

Committee on Science: Subcommittee on Basic Research continued hearings on Domain Name System (Part 2). Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

FAA'S EFFORTS TO CLOSE FLIGHT SERVICE STATIONS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Aviation held a hearing on FAA's efforts to close and consolidate flight service stations and to consider H.R. 1454, to prohibit the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration from closing certain flight service stations. Testimony was heard from Representative Riggs; Ronald E. Morgan, Director, Air Traffic, FAA, Department of Transportation; Nancy Flemming, Mayor, Eureka, California; and public witnesses.

VETERANS LEGISLATION

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Ordered reported the following bills: H.R. 1703, amended, Department of Veterans Affairs Employment Discrimination Prevention Act; and H.R. 2571, to authorize major medical facility projects and major medical facility leases for the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 1998.

FAST TRACK TRADE AUTHORITY

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Trade held a hearing on the implementation of Fast Track Trade Authority. Testimony was heard from Representatives Gephardt, Kolbe, Visclosky, Blumenauer, Dooley of California and Moran of Virginia; Charlene Barshefsky, U.S. Trade Representative; and public witnesses.

GULFLINK BRIEFING

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Meet in executive session to hold a briefing on GulfLink. The Committee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

Joint Meetings

APPROPRIATIONS—TREASURY/POSTAL SERVICE

Conferees on Monday, September 29, agreed to file a conference report on the differences between the Senate- and House-passed versions of H.R. 2378, making appropriations for the Treasury Department, the United States Postal Service, the Executive Office of the President, and certain independent agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998.

APPROPRIATIONS—INTERIOR

Conferees continued in evening session to resolve the differences between the Senate- and House-passed versions of H.R. 2107, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998.

APPROPRIATIONS—VA/HUD

Conferees agreed to file a conference report on the differences between the Senate- and House-passed versions of H.R. 2158, making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998.

AUTHORIZATION—FOREIGN ASSISTANCE

Conferees continued to resolve the differences between the Senate- and House-passed versions of H.R. 1757, to consolidate international affairs agencies, and to authorize funds for the Department of State and related agencies for fiscal years 1998 and 1999, but did not complete action thereon, and recessed subject to call.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1997

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, to hold hearings to examine the results of a nationwide study by the National Cancer Institute of radioactive fallout from nuclear testing in the 1950s, 9 a.m., SD-192.

Committee on Armed Services, to hold hearings on the nomination of Jacques S. Gansler, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology, 10 a.m., SR-222.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, to hold hearings on the nomination of William E. Kennard,